THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) There is no proposal at present for any increase in the domestic air fares of Indian Airlines.

Development of Tourism in Pondicherry

1679. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised the tourism plan for the country ;

(b) whether Government have identified the tourist spots in the Union Territory of Pondicherry with the assistance of the State Government; and

(c) what is the total amount allocated by Government for the development of tourism in Pondicherry ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The Eighth Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised.

(b) and (c) Development and identification of tourist spots is primarily the responsibility of the Union Territory Administration. However, Central financial assistance is extended on specific proposals based on their merits, availability of funds and interse priorities. This would be decided after the detailed proposals have been received from the U.T. Administration for the year 1992-93.

French Proposal for Development of Airports in the Country

1680. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from France for the modernisation and upgradation of national and international airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the names of these airports; and

(c) the details of assistance proposed to be provided for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development of Religious Places in Bihar

1681. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that places of pilgrimage of almost all the religions are located in the State of Bihar which can also be developed as potential tourist centres ; and

(b) if so, what action the Central Government have taken to develop the pilgrimage places of Bihar into tourist centres to attract tourists ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Development of Tourist Centres whether religious or otherwise is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Government of India does not on its own undertake development of such places; However, it assists the State Government in Development of infrastructural facilities on the basis of specific proposals received which are considered on the basis of its merits, inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

Utilisation of Airbus A-320

1682. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the present passenger traffic is less than the number of passengers carried by the Indian Airlines in 1987-88, even though 18 Airbus 320 planes were added to the fleet;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the utilisation of Airbus 320 is almost half